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Chiang Names New Legislative Team

SACRAMENTO – State Controller John Chiang today announced the appointment of Les Kleinberg as Director and Dave O'Toole as Deputy Director of the Controller's Office of Legislative Affairs.

"Together, these two Capitol veterans have more than 30 years of legislative and financial experience that will serve the people of California well," Chiang said. "I am thrilled to have Les Kleinberg and Dave O'Toole represent the Controller's public policy agenda before the Legislature and regulatory bodies. Together, they will help shape this office into a reliable, on-demand source of fiscal policy information and technical expertise."

Since 1999, Kleinberg has served as Special Assistant Attorney General and Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs for the California Department of Justice (DOJ). In that role, he was responsible for advocating on behalf of the Attorney General's legislative package and overseeing almost 2,500 legislative proposals that impacted the DOJ. He served as counsel to the Senate Judiciary and the Senate Public Safety committees from 1992-1999, and as counsel to the Senate President pro Tempore in 1987-1992. In that position, he was the Senate leader's lead policy advisor on public safety, tort reform, family law and other civil law matters. Kleinberg also served as a consultant in the Senate Office of Research from 1982 to 1987.

Kleinberg graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and received his law degree from Loyola Law School. He began his new position today.

Since 2004, O'Toole has served as a consultant to the Senate Budget and Review Committee, where he was responsible for the subcommittee that oversees state administration, general government, transportation and judiciary budgets. He was responsible for ensuring appropriate spending for the state Board of Equalization and Franchise Tax Board, as well as the State Treasurer's Office and the State Controller's Office. In 2001-2004, he served as a finance analyst for the Department of Finance where he developed, analyzed and administered programming of the state's \$10 billion transportation budget for the Department of Transportation and the California Transportation Commission.

A graduate of Boston College, O'Toole received his master's degree in public policy from the Public Policy Institute at Georgetown University. He begins his new position March 12.

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